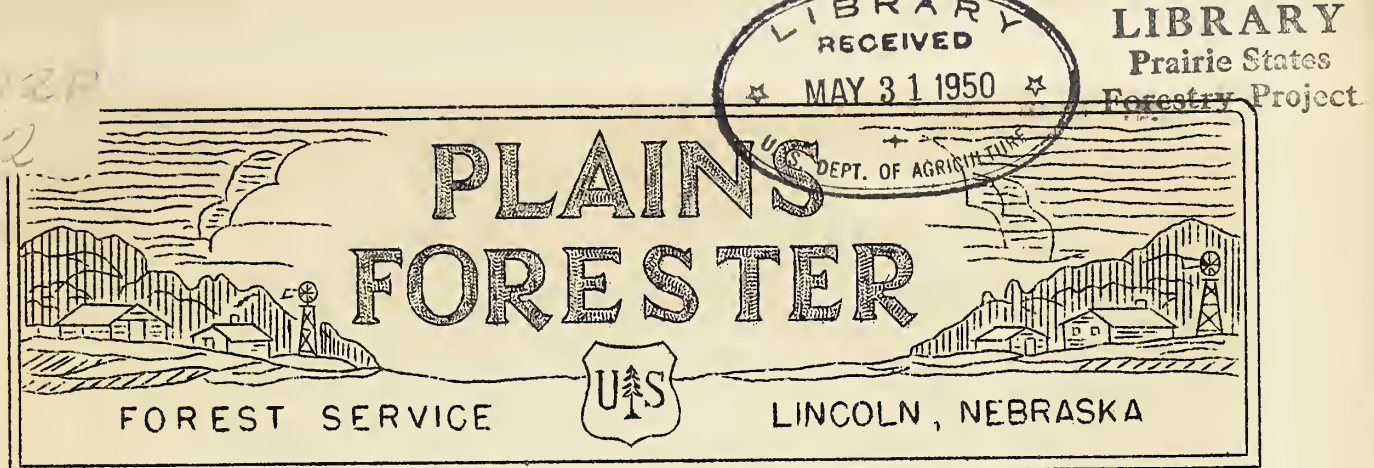


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A WAY OF LIFE

By T. Russell Reitz, Kans.

Recently there came to my desk a copy of the report on a Unified County Program for Nemaha County, the first county to make such a report. Most of the field men know that county planning activities include three types of planting; i.e., the preliminary, intensive, and unified. The report to which I refer began on the premise that there were various complex factors entering into the whole agricultural problem in Nemaha County and mentioned specifically such complexities as low farm income, landlord-tenant relations, high fixed overhead costs, and world uncertainties, as well as matters pertaining to soil conservation, land retirement, and other problems.

The report stated that because of these complexities it would be necessary to limit the first work in unified planning to those things which could be attacked with the tools at hand. There followed an outline to define the goals and show the contribution expected from each agency working in the county. Action was recommended on such matters as an increase in legume acreage, retirement of land unsuited to cultivation, promotion of soil conservation, increased use of temporary pastures, and an effort to improve landlord-tenant relations particularly as to length of tenure and system of leasing.

It seemed to me that the report was very well prepared. I considered it a sound approach to recognize at first those complex factors which overshadow all farm improvement programs. As a county agent so well expressed it in the Summer Extension Conferences, the farmer's income is spread over those things which are of the greatest need to him and his family. The illustration was given that many farmers needed to apply lime to their alfalfa and at the same time the farm home needs a bathtub. This agent pointed out that the farm family would probably decide as a group which would come first. They might decide that they would lime their alfalfa this year and this practice would make it possible to buy the bathtub next year. There is no denying that the size of the farm income underlies a large share of the agricultural problem. If the income is large enough, the farmer has better machinery, better livestock, a better car and home. If it is small, the opportunities for improvements are reduced.

The income of many farmers has been small for a long time. The unified program outlined is along those lines which many farmers can adopt in whole or in part. It sounds rather like a simple program when applied to the county.

We must not forget that farming is a way of life. Regardless of how much we may talk about the need for land retirement or the adjustment of the landlord-tenant relationship, the fact remains that these complex problems will not be solved in a day, possibly not in 20 years, and yet the farm families will continue to live on the farms of Nemaha County. We ought to recognize that while the farmer works toward conserving his soil, growing an adequate legume acreage, or doing any of a number of long-range jobs, he is living his life among his surroundings whether they be beautiful or otherwise. It seems to me, therefore, that we should reflect this fact in our unified program for a county. We should seek to keep before ourselves who work with farmers and before farmers also the fact that they should bring to themselves as much that is beautiful and pleasant as they can.

Many of the things that are pleasant cost money; many of them cost more than the farmers in many instances can pay. Yet there are many farm homes without even one shade tree and there are two-thirds of our farmsteads in Kansas without either a planted or natural windbreak of trees. For most farmers, a shade tree or a windbreak could improve his surroundings and it would not be a costly improvement. In many cases the trees could be brought to the farm home without expense of any kind. Wilding trees are available and could be used by even that farm family most in need.

While tree planting is only one of many possibilities, it seems to me that we should seek out things like this so that while we talk soil conservation, land retirement, adequate legumes and so forth, we also try to keep before our farmers those possibilities for pleasant surroundings which can go hand-in-hand with the farmer's financial condition and his other problems and help him find more joy in living by having a beautiful place for his home.

Trees on the farm may not be the cash crop that other things are, yet every farm family is richer, home is dearer, and the place is prettier and more livable if there are some trees around the farmstead. I think our unified programs should seek to bring about all the desirable conservation and adjustments possible, but I think we should not lose sight of some of the "way of life" factors also.

Our project leaders are the ones who will help write unified county programs in the several counties. We need to keep up with the movement. Along with our shelterbelts to help out with soil conservation, we should not forget to keep before ourselves and before our project leaders the idea that during the period in which we are working to conserve natural resources, time moves along and the farmer is spending his lifetime among his surroundings. These surroundings on at least two-thirds of the farms in Kansas could be improved if we can only bring the realization of the matter to the farmer concerned and prompt him to act for his own welfare.

WE NOW PLOW HORIZONTALLY following the curvature of the hills and hollows on dead level, however crooked the lines may be. Every furrow thus acts as a reservoir to receive and retain the waters;....scarcely an ounce of soil is now carried off.....In point of beauty nothing can exceed that of the waving lines and rows winding along the face of the hills and valleys.

- Thomas Jefferson

(Clipped "Northern Region News")

HOW FAST DO SHELTERBELTS GROW?

Recently a quick survey of over 100 miles of Texas shelterbelts was made to determine the condition as to cultivation, general effectiveness and growth. All the data indicated that generally the belts were in very good shape. The growth figure however was particularly interesting from the standpoint of determining how soon maximum effectiveness could be expected.

No conclusions were drawn and the number of years of growth were too few to project past the next two or three years. The figures shown below are actual samples:

AVERAGE HEIGHT SHELTERBELT TREES

<u>Species</u>	<u>Year Planted</u>				
	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Desertwillow	8.5	6.5	4.3	3.7	2.0
Tamarix	3.9	-	3.0	-	-
Plum	-	-	6.5	2.5	-
Osageorange	7.3	5.3	4.0	2.5	1.5
Hackberry	7.1	-	4.4	-	-
Green Ash	7.0	3.0	-	2.5	1.5
Walnut	-	-	3.2	2.0	-
Catalpa	4.8	-	4.8	-	-
American Elm	5.4	4.0	3.7	-	-
Chinese Elm	-	9.5	7.7	4.6	2.0
Mulberry	6.8	6.2	4.4	3.5	1.0
Apricot	6.6	5.0	3.8	2.0	-
Black Locust	13.0	9.5	7.1	3.75	-
Honeylocust	8.2	7.3	4.9	2.75	-
Cottonwood	17.3	14.8	10.4	5.00	2.00

(No attempt was made to weed out the poor belts)

- Hyman M. Goldberg, Tex.

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS TO HOLD FORTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

The fortieth annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters will be held in the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., December 19-21, 1940. Dr. C. F. Korstian, dean of the Duke School of Forestry, Durham, North Carolina, who is president of the Society, has announced that a program of broad professional interest has been arranged.

The opening morning session on December 19 will have as its theme, "Forty Years of Forestry." A group of well-known foresters will discuss the topic "Past and present policies -- federal, state, and private. How will they guide our future progress?"

For Thursday afternoon is scheduled a panel discussion of one hour in duration on Information and Education. The topic will be "How can we best win public support for forestry and forest conservation through information and education?" The rest of the afternoon will be devoted to a thorough presentation of "Forestry and National Defense."

The morning of December 20 will be devoted to Society affairs, open to members only. The afternoon session is scheduled for the presentation of papers on "New Developments in Forestry," and will include topics such as forest cooperatives, the use of parachutes in fire fighting, and community forests.

According to President Korstian, the final session the morning of December 21 promises to be one of the most interesting ever scheduled for a Society meeting. The theme will be "Regulated Forest Management in the United States." Authoritative speakers, representing federal, state, and private agencies, will present their viewpoints and answers to the question, "Of what should proposed regulation of private forest management consist?"

The Society, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., has a membership of 4600 technically educated foresters in the United States and Canada. Its official organ is the JOURNAL OF FORESTRY, a professional monthly magazine devoted to all branches of forestry.

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

The fact that PSFP shelterbelts--the unusual of five years ago--are the commonplace of today, is increasingly evident as one travels through one of our planting areas. Beginning in 1935, the writer spent nearly two years on the Project before seeing one of our shelterbelts. This was not because I did not travel at times through our planting areas, but because our shelterbelts were comparatively few and it seemed, at least, that few sites were selected along main highways. Before seeing my first shelterbelt, I was almost convinced that our plantings were all on paper.

Gradually at first, but with increasing rapidity in the last couple of years, the situation has changed. For example, a short time ago, in traveling from Wichita to Hutchinson via Highways 54 and 17, a distance of 55 miles, there were 16 belts adjacent to the highway and several others were visible from it, but from one-eighth to one-half mile away. This was not a picked section of a concentration area but simply a random sample cross-section of one of our planting areas.

These belts, which are easy to identify as PSFP products, even though most of them are not posted with signs, are of sufficient size to attract considerable attention. Because of the fact that, as time goes on, our belts will increase greatly in prominence, it is interesting to reflect on the total effect our program promises to have on the landscape and on farming and living conditions within our planting areas in the next ten years, providing we are able to continue operations on somewhat the same scale as at present. When one stops to consider that our Project has been responsible for the establishment of some 14,000 miles of belts similar to those mentioned above, belts which promise to develop forest conditions in miniature on thousands of Plains farms in a few years, there is something really inspiring both in the past record and in the future possibilities of our program even to a member of the office force.

- John D. Hall, Kans.

When a man has put a limit on what he will do, he has put a limit on what he can do.

- Charles M. Schwab (Indian Smoke Signals)

IMPROVING FOREST TREES

Fate decreed a rare combination of chromosomes when James G. Eddy was conceived. Nature endowed this rich lumberman with farsighted vision and a rare insight into the great future value of the improvement of forest trees. He established and endowed in 1925 the Eddy Tree Breeding Station at Placerville, California. Its brief existence of 15 years has been beset with its problems and difficulties, but throughout there has been a determination of its founder and of its deeply absorbed and faithful workers until now it is firmly established as the Institute of Forest Genetics, operated by the Forest Service in cooperation with the University of California.

Mr. Eddy, the wealthy commercial lumberman, was a lover of Nature and a student of agricultural plants and animals. The improvement of wild species and existing strains was his favorite study. Realizing that sooner or later civilization will have to depend largely upon man-planted forests, he became enthusiastic about the breeding and improvement of forest trees. He conferred with numerous foresters, plant breeders, horticulturists, botanists, and others, with the result that in 1935 he established this tree breeding station at Placerville, California.

In September, 1939 I spent a day at this most remarkable institute and with some of the men who are now in charge had the wonderful opportunity to see a little of what they were doing there. The results obtained in their nurseries and field trial plots promise great practical results for future forestry. The laboratories showed the highly technical and novel methods employed in hybridization, pollen storage, etc. Seed of pines and other species have been collected from all corners of the globe. There are seed lots from numerous individual trees of highly superior strains. There are seeds of the same species from various elevations and latitudes.

In the nursery seed beds the progeny tests from individual trees of superior strain were most interesting and fascinating. An inspection of the young hybrids in the testing blocks growing alongside trees of the parent species of the same age was most instructive and thrilled the imagination. It provided the observer with a realization as to how scientific timber production of the future will develop.

A most remarkable technique of collecting and storing pollen has been developed. Novel methods of large-scale hybridization procedure have been worked out. In storage there were quart jars of pollen from many strains and species. I never saw so much pollen in one place in all my life!

Highly technical procedures are being developed to hasten the practical application of discoveries and conclusions. One of these is the development of tetraploid hybrids, which are claimed to reproduce 100 percent pure.

While this institute is located at 2700' elevation, there are branch nurseries and testing blocks within short driving distances where tests can be made on parent trees or hybrids at from 100 feet to 10,000 feet above sea level, and in environment ranging from a semi-tropical climate to a frigid cold of 30 degrees below zero. Thus their findings and new strains are adapted to a national scope.

These are just a few of the highlights concerning this most unusual project. The men I met while there included Loyd Austin, Senior Conservationist in Charge; R. H. Weidman, Superintendent; and E. I. Righter, Conservationist. Mr. Austin has been associated with this institute from its early days and is a most capable forest geneticist. He has assembled a unique staff of collaborators and assistants, all working toward a common goal. Other members of the staff include W. P. Stockwell, Conservationist, and N. T. Mirov, Silviculturist. All of these men are pioneers in this comparatively new and little developed field of forest genetics, and their experience and knowledge will serve as a guide for all other future forest genetics institutes and tree breeding stations.

In this connection, however, I also desire to mention Mr. E. J. Schreiner, Forest Geneticist of the New England Experiment Station at New Haven, Connecticut, who has done some most excellent work along this line, especially with superior strains of poplars for paper pulp production.

As far as I know, the Placerville group and Mr. Schreiner are the only ones who are engaged by the United States Forest Service in the improvement of forest trees in the United States. Forest genetics is a most urgent phase of investigations needed by the Prairie States Forestry Project, and it is hoped that before long something definite will develop along this line. In the meantime, everyone of us should keep our eyes open for superior strains in our shelterbelt plantings. All such discoveries should be noted and as opportunities develop, further action should be initiated. Each of us can do a little. Once we have a start with the known location of superior individual trees, the time will come when they will serve as foundation stock for our future prairie forest genetics program.

- Max Pfaender, Okla.

SHALL WE DYE THAT BIRDS MAY LIVE?

In a recent issue of the Wichita Beacon an interesting article "Don't See Red" was published, which might be food for thought in rodent control activities.

Most nocturnal birds are relatively color blind to reds and, on the other hand, most birds that are active in the daytime do not see blue very well, reports the Better Vision Institute. If a mixture of gray and blue grain is fed to chickens, the blue grains will be ignored until the gray kernels have been picked up. Feeding experiments with the night birds have indicated that they cannot see reds very easily.

If the poison bait used in the shelterbelts for rodent control could be dyed blue or red, perhaps it would be less attractive to the birds and game fowl. If a poison bait were blue in color, and the statement is correct that birds will not feed on grain of that color, perhaps that occasional case of undesirable comment of rodent control activities reducing the number of birds can be eliminated.

Of course the question will arise, "What if rabbits do not see either blue or red?" - So maybe the idea isn't so hot.

- R. G. Cameron, Kans.

COOPERATOR?

You are all familiar with the type of cooperator who is as full of promises as his belt is weeds, yet the trees never get cultivated.

A few comments taken from the general survey sheets on two belts will give you a rough idea of what Nick Paul thinks of one ex-cooperator. "Give it a good abandonment. Never has and never will receive adequate care. Very nice stand of weeds in spite of the tree competition. Future expenditures here would not be condoned by the taxpayer's league."

"Plow up and abandon. This belt has had little or no care and like all this owner's belts, is a nightmare. It has a splendid stand of assorted weeds. The survival figures do not present the pathetic condition of this patch of weeds."

- L. S. Matthew, R.O.

TRY THIS NEXT SPRING

Out in the further parts of Holt County 'tis said the Indians still hunt buffalo and the farmers only come to town to pay their taxes. At any rate, necessity still mothers invention up on the Niobrara River breaks. Henry Bausch, one of our cooperators, stopped his rye drill (drill, not still) long enough the other day to tell me how the boys "thereabouts" manage to plant their private plantations.

Said Henry: "I just furgit who the lazy sunuvagun it was that started it, but I seen the neighbor boys out 'listin' last spring. Said they wuz going to plant some trees. I didn't think they figgered on bending a shovel but didn't think it perlite to suggest that. Well, it wasn't long, and durned if the boys didn't come out with a go-dig and a couple of buckets of little trees. Two of the kids rode the back end of the go-dig and one passed the other the trees while the first kid stuck 'em down in the lister furrow in front of the go-dig discs which 'quick-like' buried the roots. Yes-sir, craziest things happen around here. But I was goin to tell you, they didn't have much luck with the planting. The only fellow that had any luck was Jones down the road here a ways. He's got a big wife, great big woman. Well, sir, he had her walking along back of the go-dig tromping on the loose dirt around the trees, and you know, I think that helped 'em."

I told Henry that we had a tree planter down at Norfolk that worked like that only it had a few more refinements on it - except the wife. Henry said he'd just as soon we'd "plant" his trees for him.

-- Brennan Davis, Nebr.

DANGER! LOOK AHEAD!

"Tall Weeds Cause Wreck," "Weeds Cause Car Collision," "One Dead at Weed-Obstructed Corner," "Sues Township as Result of Crash," "Township Appeals City Court Case," "Townships Must Cut Weeds at Corners."

The above are headlines over various items that have appeared during the past months in the Hutchinson News-Herald concerning accidents at blind country road corners.

Two months ago another headline read "Reno County Farmer Killed"----- a country road intersection where trees and a corn field obscured the view claimed another life yesterday in Reno County."

Last month again, a very prominent local man was killed at an intersection crash where the view was obstructed. And so it goes.

We are wondering how long it will be before a headline will read "Shelterbelt Cause of Fatal Accident." Sometime ago this district wrote several articles for PLAINS FORESTER offering suggestions to eliminate this hazard and ever since then we have been hoping that some definite recommendations would be forthcoming.

Quoting from another clipping, "The law requires weeds and hedges along roads be cut 150 feet from all intersections. Last year several fatal accidents in the county were caused partly by high weeds at intersections ---- sheriff's officers have reported numerous crashes ---- commissioners yesterday notified all township trustees of the law ---- trustees may order cutting of hedges and weeds where landowner fails to comply with the law and add the expense to the real estate tax on the property."

Today the weeds and hedges are causing the accidents - tomorrow it may be our shelterbelts. We may justify ourselves by saying "They shouldn't be driving so fast"; however, the public's attitude does not take such facts into consideration as is shown by the above headlines. I believe it is up to us to redesign our shelterbelts and publicize this redesigning before any accidents occur. We will then at least have placed ourselves on record and actually done something towards avoiding such occurrences.

- Karl F. Ziegler, Kans.

WHAT'S NEWS?

Do you sometimes bemoan the fact that you do not have on tap anything sufficiently spectacular to be wrought into a news story? Then consider the following article clipped from the Kansas City Star:

"Salina, Kas., Sept. 18. - Shelterbelt activity has brought a surprise to forest service officials. Cottonwoods, beloved tree of the Kansas pioneer because their constantly rustling leaves 'talked' and kept the lonely settlers company, still are the fastest growing trees for this locality.

"That is the discovery made by Paul Slabaugh, forest service officer in charge here, when he measured the shelterbelt plantings on several Salina County farms. On the George Stein farm near Gypsum the cottonwoods planted last spring already are seven feet tall, as against four feet for other species. There are 10,000 trees in this one shelterbelt. On the farms of Elmer Hammond, John Carlin and James Reser, cottonwoods set out in 1939 are twelve feet high and leading the parade. Chinese elms are second with a height of eleven feet.

"In Barton County a 20-mile quota of shelterbelt plantings has been set up by the forest service, giving that county, with the present planted mileage, 140 miles of shelterbelt, which in the term of row miles, means 1,400 miles of trees in that county.

"There has been a variation in the method of planting, some farmers believing that the former ten rows spaced ten feet apart took up too much acreage. In the new plan they have a choice of seven to ten rows with between-row spacing varying from eight to ten feet. Owners of small farms were especially concerned.

Is that a good story? If any other proof were needed, the fact that it made the Kansas City Star is sufficient, and yet consider by what slender threads it hangs. The news element is found in something that is an old, old story to us; that is, that cottonwoods outgrow other species of trees. Still, it is news to the public at large. The human interest element is supplied by the rustling leaves that "talked" to the lonely settlers on the Kansas prairies, and it's a darned good idea. So then, having discharged our obligations in those two respects, we are permitted to boast a little about what we have accomplished and also to issue a statement designed to refute the idea that the requirements of our program are too rigid.

So everybody is happy; the newspaper got a story that was interesting to its readers, and we got a chance to present to a large audience certain matters important to the Project. And it was all done without benefit of fire, flood, famine, or earth-rocking discovery.

- E. L. Perry, R.O.

THE 1941 ACP DOCKET

The 1941 ACP docket has been received in this office for the nation as a whole, and the Kansas docket is expected sometime within the next 45 to 60 days. Generally, the docket for 1941 is similar to the one which has been in effect during 1940 and I will comment upon just a few parts of it.

The payment for cultivating forest trees is the same as last year except that the payment may be reduced as a result of greater participation by farmers in the nation as a whole and the necessity for distributing money to all of the farmers in proportion to the participation. The payment is expected to be \$3 per acre of forest trees cultivated and protected during the period of four years ending June 30, 1941. We tried to get a five-year period included in this cultivation payment but we could not get that done.

The second thing of interest is that the \$30 special payment for planting forest trees has been reduced to \$15 in 1941 and it is expected that this special allowance will be eliminated entirely in 1942. The reason behind this change is that it sets a precedent for other practices to receive special payments and the Washington Office of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration states that they do not consider it wise to continue to recognize any practice as of more than the ordinary importance as indicated by the distinction made in the docket.

This \$30 payment, of course, did not affect shelterbelt plantings, but it did tend to increase other types of plantings, particularly those made by individual farmers.

There are two other things which are of more than ordinary importance and I am quoting certain sections of the National Docket.

"Section 2(b) County Goals. County goals may be established for particular soil building practices which are most needed in the county in order to conserve and improve soil fertility and to prevent wind and water erosion. The County Committees, with the approval of the State Committee, may designate those practices which will be approved for payment in the county in order that

the soil building allowance will be used most effectively to bring about added conservation and to secure the carrying out of soil building practices most needed on farms in the county.

"The County Committee, with the approval of the State Committee, may specify for any group of farms in the county a proportion of the soil building allowance which may be earned only by carrying out designated soil building practices which are most needed and are not routine. (See Farm Goals). Insofar as practicable, the County Committee shall determine for individual farms practices to be carried out which are not routine farming practices on the farm, but which are needed on the farm in order to conserve and improve soil fertility and prevent wind and water erosion and which will tend to accomplish the goals established for the county with respect to particular soil building practices."

In Greeley County, Kansas, the County Committee told the operators that they must plant border strips and follow the strip-cropping practice in order to draw any payment under the 1940 program. This action on the part of the Greeley County Committee prompted the men who wrote the 1941 docket to specifically cover this authority in the docket so that the County Committees can now tell the farmers that they must carry on a certain practice and they can also limit the use of practices in a county. For example, the County Committee can say in a given county that they must strip crop in order to stay in the program and the County Committee can also say that you must not or you cannot use the practice for putting phosphate on alfalfa land. There is no doubt but that these two rulings will receive a considerable amount of discussion in the explanatory meetings which will probably be held on a five-county-group basis during the early part of December or possibly the last of November if the Kansas docket is available by that date.

This makes it all the more important that we have the good will of County Committees so that they will encourage by every means at their disposal the planting and the care of forest trees.

- T. Russell Reitz, Kans.

WICHITA COUNTY FAIR

Hy Goldberg submits the following data on an exhibit used at the Wichita County (Texas) fair:

Place - Iowa Park

Attendance - 9000 plus individuals actually stopping to view exhibit. This is about 20 percent of total visiting fair.

Chief Attraction - Cross-section of 53-year Cottonwood and 70-year Hackberry with 10-year periods marked out. Comparative 3-year sections from shelterbelts covering 28 years' growth on "wild" grown older sections.

The above proved the drawing card and held people long enough to see other portions of exhibit which included 14 samples of seed, pictures, shelterbelt sign as a centerpiece, cross-sections of trees from 3-year-old shelterbelt and various diagrams showing influence and effect of protection. Literature was passed out to interested parties only.

Space Occupied - 12 x 12 foot wall space and same for floor.

Assembling - After material once is made, it takes from one-half to three-quarters of an hour to set up, and about 15 minutes to take down.

Fair Notes - Two community exhibits stressed windbreak and shelterbelt protection. Although Wichita County is not considered as being in the zone of intensive planting, numerous individuals asked intelligent questions relative to the work and many fine complimentary comments were passed on the shelterbelt plantings. Vocational agricultural and science teachers asked for help, and school children accompanied by their parents asked questions on trees in general.

Conclusion - Exhibit proved highly educational in value by reaching these large groups. Same exhibit in smaller sections could be used in bank windows or lobbies, store windows, etc., to good effect.

ENROLLEE WRITES MODEST LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Recently a colored camp enrollee assistant clerk asked the camp superintendent for a letter of recommendation. The superintendent replied that if the enrollee would write up something about the work he had done in camp, he would sign it. The following is the letter the enrollee, who has since left the CCD, prepared:

"To Whom It May Concern:

"_____ has worked under my supervision as senior enrollee clerk, and has the efficaciousness to handle any assignment given him.

"His initiative is capious and above reproach. His work as senior enrollee clerk was incandescent, and possessed magisterial judgment. He has an unlimited degree of intelligence, combined with a prodigious, systematic cause of learning.

"He is efficient, accurate and has ego that is admirable to every extent. As a clerical typist, his speed is far above the average; his accuracy in this field is predominant.....

"Judging only by his past performance as my employee, I feel that his clerical aptitude is one to be considered. He has all the qualifications of an exceptionally well-bred clerk and with the dynamic spirit that prevails. I am sure that his work in this field shall continue toward better efficiency, and the employer who employs this individual will without question be an asset to the organization."

- Reg. 9 "Daily Contact"

WINDBREAK MAKES BIG DIFFERENCE IN SWEET CORN YIELD

Atwood, Kan., Sept.--(Special)--Arthur Richards planted an acre in sweet corn this year, the acre being divided by a windbreak of trees. From the half acre north of the trees he sold the crop for between \$35 and \$40. On the south side of the windbreak it was almost worthless. The two tracts were cultivated and irrigated in the same way and at the same time. Some of the stalks on the "good" side had as many as five or six ears and were of good height.

- Clipped from "Topeka Capital" of 9/8/40

WASHINGTON'S RULES OF CONDUCT

From the diary of George Washington have been taken the following rules of conduct which any man might follow to his advantage:

"When a man does all he can, tho it succeeds not well, blame not him that did it."

"Being to advise or reprehend anyone consider whether it ought to be in public or in private, presently or at some other time; also in whatever terms to do it, and in reproof show no signs of cholor, but do it with mildness and sweetness."

"Use no reproachful language against anyone, neither curses nor revilings"

"Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of anyone."

"Let your conversation be without malice or envy. It is a sign of commendable nature; and in all causes of passion admit reason to govern."

"Be not immodest in urging your friend to discover a secret."

"Utter no base and frivolous things amongst grown and learned men, nor very difficult questions or subjects amongst the ignorant, nor things hard to be believed."

"Speak not of doleful things in time of mirth nor at the table; speak not of melancholy things, as death and wounds, and if others mention them, change, if you can, the discourse. Tell not your dreams but to your intimate friends."

"Break no jest when none have pleasure in mirth. Laugh not aloud, nor at all without occasion. Deride no man's misfortune, tho there seems to be some cause."

"Speak not injurious words, neither in jest nor earnest. Scoff at none, altho they give occasion."

"Be not forward, but friendly and courteous, the first to salute, hear and answer; and be not pensive when it is time to converse."

"Detract not from others, but neither be excessive in commending."

"Go not thither where you know not whether you shall be welcome or not. Give not advice without being asked; and when desired, do it briefly."

"If two contend together, take not the part of either unconstrained, and be not obstinate in your opinion; in thing indifferent be of the major side."

"Reprehend not the imperfection of others, for that belongs to parents, masters and superiors."

- Long Run Tribune, Co. 306.

(Taken from CCC "Happy Days")

SHELTERBELT OWNERS OUR BEST BOOSTERS

The question is often raised here in Texas as to what group of people are the most active supporters of our program. It has been my contention that the resident farmer with a good shelterbelt cannot be equaled by any group.

A recent shelterbelt tour sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at Childress, Texas, brought this out very forcefully. Although the Chamber of Commerce put out 300 letters to business men and telephoned 100, and ran a week of news publicity on the tour, the entire attendance was made up of farmers with belts, who had been personally invited by the district officer, with the exception of one man, who was a vocational agriculture teacher.

One of the cooperators, a Mr. Weatherby, whose belts were the high point of the tour, completely erased our disappointment at the business men's turnout by serving the group with a wagonload of watermelons in the shade of one of his belts. Our State Director made both moving and still pictures of

the concentration of plantings on this farm, showing the beneficial effects of the belts on the fields and crops. We also took pictures of the group eating watermelons among the shelterbelts.

Whether it be holding a tour or securing applications for shelterbelts, I believe the support of a group of satisfied shelterbelt owners will beat any combination Texas has to offer, be it Extension Service, Chamber of Commerce, bankers, school teachers, civic organizations, societies for the relief of one-legged jack rabbits, or what have you.

- Thomas C. Croker, Jr. Tex.

DOWN WITH THE RABBITS

Since it appears that there will be a large rabbit population in Kansas again this fall, various means of alleviating the resulting problem are being considered.

The following is one method that might be worth trying. One of the County Agents whom we have seen is going to talk the plan over with the Farm Bureau Board. First he will mention the fact that eight rabbits eat as much as one sheep and 36 eat as much as a cow. After they have thought this over, he is going to suggest that they have a rabbit drive and catch a few of the rabbits alive. These then are to be ear-tagged with tags that may be redeemed for various amounts by the Farm Bureau Board. Some will be redeemed for fifty cents, some for a dollar. The grand prize will be the one tagged "Hitler" which will bring a reward of five dollars. These rabbits are to be turned loose through the county, and a big write-up put in the paper at the time explaining the latest method of warfare on our Number One Enemy.

We feel, as does the County Agent, that such a stunt would receive considerable publicity and might even result in a few rabbits being shot, or at least shot at.

Last winter the rabbits did not have much choice when it came to picking out something to eat, trees were about the only thing. This winter with the recent rains there will be plenty of feed and wheat and this may help to save the trees. Even if the trees are eaten just as dessert after a hearty meal on wheat, with the number of rabbits seen hopping around, there could easily be considerable damage done.

- Glenn W. Spring, Kans.

NEWS OF EX-PERSONNEL

It was learned from Harry P. Rigdon who visited the State Office recently that, effective August 1, he was selected to fill the newly created position of Extension Farm Forester in charge of Planting and Nursery Production at the Oklahoma A. & M. College at Stillwater, Oklahoma. Mr. Rigdon was supervisor of Nursery Production and Seed Collection work on the PSFP in Kansas from November 1935 to August 1937, when he accepted a position as Assistant State Forester in Oklahoma.

This is the second Extension Forester position to be filled by a former PSFP employee within two months, Richard C. Johnson, Shelterbelt Assistant at St. John, having been selected as State Extension Forester for Kansas on July 1.

- J. D. Hall, Kans.

SORGHUM TOUR

Did you ever go on a sorghum tour? Well, neither did I, but I am all steamed up with a hankering to since reading about the Edwards County sorghum tour down in Kansas. According to Gaylord Hargadine, who was with the group, the vocational agriculture classes from two high schools, together with farmers, stockmen, and business men, to a total number of 165, made the seven-hour trip laid out for the tour.

I guess the thing that appeals to me most about this project, not having been there personally, is the very attractive guide which was gotten out for it by the county agent's office. Actually, its 13 pages constitute a pretty comprehensive course in agriculture, from soil geology to farm economics. For example, on Page 1 we find in two paragraphs a pretty good description of the way in which the soils of that section were formed, and the reasons for the rolling topography of the land. Along about the middle of the tour, the author digresses from the running description of farm practices which have been seen, long enough to state a mighty sound economic fact, to-wit: "Around the barn you will see 31 steers that Walter is feeding out, and eighteen 500-pound calves. This is the end product of a sorghum crop. Livestock is the safeguard to agriculture. It is the project which makes the banker have faith in you."

The Walter referred to also has some 21 acres of shelterbelts on his farm, the culture of which is explained in the guide. Several other shelterbelts are listed in the guide, and any peculiarities in connection with them explained. Hargadine made a talk on shelterbelts during the noon stop.

The purpose of this tour was to advance the idea of planting more sorghums in Edwards County, and I gather from the guide that farming there is not all beer and skittles. Consider the following, for example: "The field you are viewing is planted to strips of dwarf yellow milo and wheat. The milo is on failed wheat ground. After the wheat was abandoned the field was disced and planted. The heavy rain in early June covered the milo so the farmer replanted it on June 20 by splitting the ridges."

It's tough going where it requires three seedings to get a crop, and I wonder what class of American citizens other than Plains farmers has that much patience and tenacity.

- E. L. Perry, R.O.

AGAIN WE SAY AU REVOIR

Bob Bennett was transferred to the position of Inspector of Accounts in the Division of Fiscal Control at Atlanta, Georgia, and together with Ruth and little Roger, left via auto for their new home on October 9. Word has already reached us that they arrived safe and sound. Bob has been assigned to this Project almost from its very beginning, having held the positions of Administrative Assistant first in North Dakota and later in Kansas, and Inspector of Accounts and Deputy Fiscal Agent in Fiscal Control.

Miss Olive Peterson, of Fiscal Control, who was mentioned last month as being on detail to Washington, has now been transferred to a permanent position in the Division of Lands and Recreation in the Washington Office, effective October 7. She has been employed as stenographer and clerk on the Project in North Dakota and Fiscal Control since 1935, except for about nine months in 1936 and 1937 when she was assigned to the Washington Office.

Both the Bennett family and Miss Peterson will be missed very much, both in official circles throughout the Project, and by their many friends.

- Lee Stratton, R.O.